METHOD, SYSTEM, AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING SELF-DESTRUCTING ELECTRONIC MAIL MESSAGES

Abstract

A method, system, and apparatus for providing a self-destructing e-mail messages

5 are described. An e-mail client application provides a user interface through which the sender of an e-mail message can enter the message and a time period for destruction of the message. Once the sender has provided this information, the e-mail client application sends a request to an e-mail server application to transmit the self-destructing e-mail message. The e-mail client application may also receive self-destructing e-mail

10 messages. When a self-destructing e-mail message is received, the destruction date associated with the e-mail message is identified and the message is destroyed at the specified time. The e-mail client application can also limit the number and type of operations that may be performed on a self-destructing e-mail. An e-mail server application is also provided that receives requests from the e-mail client application to

15 transmit self-destructing e-mail messages and perform other functions.